



The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company  
A Stock Company Home Office Location: Fort Wayne, Indiana  
Group Insurance Service Office: 8801 Indian Hills Drive, Omaha, NE 68114-4066  
(800) 423-2765 Online: www.LincolnFinancial.com

CERTIFIES THAT Group Policy No. GL 000010270935 has been issued to  
Cherokee County  
(The Group Policyholder)

The issue date of the Policy is July 1, 2022. This certificate supersedes and replaces any previously issued certificate with an effective date of July 1, 2022.

Certificate of Insurance for Class 1 of Plan 1

You are entitled to the benefits described in this Certificate only if you are eligible, become and remain insured under the provisions of the Policy. This Certificate replaces any other certificates for the benefits described inside. As a Certificate of Insurance, it is not a contract of insurance; it only summarizes the provisions of the Policy and is subject to the Policy's terms. If the provisions of this Certificate and the Policy do not agree, the provisions of the Policy will apply.

**ANY PERIOD OF DISABILITY WHICH BEGINS IN THE FIRST 12 MONTHS AFTER THE INSURED PERSON'S EFFECTIVE DATE, WHICH IS CAUSED OR CONTRIBUTED TO BY, OR RESULTS FROM A PRE-EXISTING CONDITION, WILL NOT BE COVERED BY THE POLICY.**

**IMPORTANT CANCELLATION INFORMATION - PLEASE READ THE PROVISION ENTITLED "TERMINATION OF COVERAGE", FOUND ON PAGE 2-STD.**

PRESIDENT

**THIS CERTIFICATE IS RENEWABLE AT THE COMPANY'S OPTION.  
PLEASE READ YOUR CERTIFICATE CAREFULLY**

**THIS CERTIFICATE IS NOT A MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT CERTIFICATE. If you are eligible for Medicare, review the Guide to Health Insurance for People with Medicare, which is available from the Company, or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), or online at [www.medicare.gov/Publications](http://www.medicare.gov/Publications).**

**CERTIFICATE OF GROUP INSURANCE  
PROVIDING  
WEEKLY DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE**

Lincoln Financial Group is the marketing name for Lincoln National Corporation and its affiliates.

**Cherokee County**  
**000010270935**  
**SCHEDULE OF INSURANCE**

**ELIGIBLE CLASS**

**Class 1 - All Full-Time Employees**

There will be an Open Enrollment Period beginning May 1<sup>st</sup> and ending May 31<sup>st</sup> for eligible employees to enroll for Weekly Disability Income Insurance. Evidence of insurability will not be required during this enrollment period provided the Insured Person:

- (1) has not been previously declined; and
- (2) elects an amount of insurance not to exceed the Maximum Weekly Benefit.

Coverage elected during this period that is not subject to Evidence of Insurability will become effective:

- (1) July 1<sup>st</sup> following the enrollment period, if Actively at Work on that day; or
- (2) The day the Insured Person resumes Active Work, if not Actively at Work on the day the elected coverage would otherwise take effect.

The Policy does not replace or provide benefits required by Workers' Compensation laws or any state disability insurance plan laws.

**Cherokee County**  
**000010270935**  
**SCHEDULE OF INSURANCE**  
**For**  
**Class 1 - All Full-Time Employees**

MINIMUM HOURS: 30 hours per week

WAITING PERIOD: (For date insurance begins, refer to "Effective Date" section)  
One month of continuous Active Work

CONTRIBUTIONS: You are required to contribute to the cost of the Weekly Disability Income Insurance.

**WEEKLY DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE**

BENEFIT PERCENTAGE: 60%

MAXIMUM WEEKLY BENEFIT: \$500

MINIMUM WEEKLY BENEFIT: 10% of your Weekly Total Disability Benefit

DAY BENEFITS BEGIN: 15<sup>th</sup> consecutive day of Disability due to Accidental Injury; and  
15<sup>th</sup> consecutive day of Disability due to Sickness.

The Day Benefits Begin may be reached by days of Total Disability, Partial Disability, or any combination thereof.

MAXIMUM BENEFIT PERIOD: 24 weeks

The Maximum Weekly Benefit will not exceed the Benefit Percentage times Basic Weekly Earnings.

After the Day Benefits Begin, the Maximum Benefit Period will be reduced by any days for which you receive payment under the Employer's Sick Leave or Salary Continuance Plan for the same Disability.

Weekly Disability Income Insurance will terminate when you retire.

**ADDITIONAL FEATURES:**

Family Income Benefit: 3 times your last Weekly Benefit payable immediately prior to death.

Rehabilitation Assistance Benefit:

- Rehabilitation Incentive Benefit of 5% of Basic Weekly Earnings
- Reasonable Accommodation Benefit
- Vocational Rehabilitation Benefit

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Definitions.....	3
General Provisions.....	8
Eligibility and Effective Dates.....	10
Individual Terminations.....	12
Claims Procedures for Weekly Disability Income Benefits.....	14
Portability.....	17
Weekly Disability Income Insurance.....	18
Vocational Rehabilitation Benefit.....	22
Rehabilitation Incentive Benefit.....	23
Reasonable Accommodation Benefit.....	24
Family Income Benefit.....	25
Notice.....	26
Prior Insurance Credit Provision.....	28

## DEFINITIONS

As used throughout the Policy, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated below. Other parts of the Policy contain definitions specific to those provisions.

**ACTIVE WORK** or **ACTIVELY AT WORK** means your performance of all Main Duties of your Own Occupation, for the regularly scheduled number of hours, at:

- (1) the Employer's place of business; or
- (2) any other business location where the Employer requires you to travel.

Unless disabled on the prior workday or on the day of absence, you will be considered Actively at Work on the following days:

- (1) a Saturday, Sunday or holiday that is not a scheduled workday;
- (2) a paid vacation day, or other scheduled or unscheduled non-workday; or
- (3) a non-medical leave of absence of 12 weeks or less, whether taken with the Employer's prior approval or on an emergency basis.

This includes a Military Leave or an approved Family or Medical Leave that is not due to your own health condition.

**BASIC WEEKLY EARNINGS** or **PREDISABILITY INCOME** means your average weekly base salary or hourly pay from the Employer before taxes on the Determination Date. The "**Determination Date**" is the last day worked just prior to the date the Disability begins.

It does **not** include commissions, bonuses, overtime pay, or any other extra compensation. It does **not** include income from a source other than the Employer. It will not exceed the amount shown in the Employer's financial records, the amount for which premium has been paid, or the Maximum Covered Weekly Earnings permitted by the Policy; whichever is less. (Maximum Covered Weekly Earnings equals the Maximum Weekly Benefit divided by the Benefit Percentage shown in the Schedule of Insurance.) Exception: For purposes of determining the Partial Disability Weekly Benefit, Basic Weekly Earnings will not exceed the amount shown in the Employer's financial records.

**COMPANY** means The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, an Indiana corporation. Its Group Insurance Service Office address is 8801 Indian Hills Drive, Omaha, Nebraska 68114-4066.

**DAY** or **DATE** means the period of time that begins at 12:01 a.m. and ends at 12:00 midnight, standard time, at the Group Policyholder's place of business. When used with regard to effective dates, it means 12:01 a.m. When used with regard to termination dates, it means 12:00 midnight.

**DISABILITY** or **DISABLED** means Total Disability or Partial Disability.

**DISABILITY BENEFIT**, when used with the term Retirement Plan, means a benefit that:

- (1) is payable under a Retirement Plan due to disability as defined in that plan; and
- (2) does not reduce the benefits that would have been paid as Retirement Benefits at the normal retirement age under the plan if the disability had not occurred.

If the payment of the benefit does cause such a reduction, the benefit will be deemed a Retirement Benefit as defined in the Policy.

**EMPLOYEE** or **FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE** means a person:

- (1) whose employment with the Employer is the person's main occupation;
- (2) whose employment is for regular wage or salary, on a full-time basis;
- (3) who is regularly scheduled to work at such occupation at least the Minimum Hours shown in the Schedule of Insurance;
- (4) who is a member of an Eligible Class which is eligible for coverage under the Policy;
- (5) who is not a temporary or seasonal employee; and
- (6) who is a citizen of the United States or legally works in the United States.

## **DEFINITIONS (Continued)**

**EMPLOYER** means the Group Policyholder. It includes any division, subsidiary or affiliated company named in the Application or Participation Agreement.

**EVIDENCE OF INSURABILITY** means a statement of proof of your medical history. The Company uses this to determine your acceptance for insurance or an increased amount of insurance. Such proof will be provided at your own expense.

**FAMILY OR MEDICAL LEAVE** means an approved leave of absence that:

- (1) is subject to the federal FMLA law (the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 and any amendments to it) or a similar state law;
- (2) is taken in accord with the Employer's leave policy and the law which applies; and
- (3) does not exceed the period approved by the Employer and required by that law.

Under the federal FMLA law, such leaves are permitted for up to 12 weeks in a 12-month period as defined by the Employer. The 12 weeks:

- (1) may consist of consecutive or intermittent work days; or
- (2) may be granted on a part-time equivalency basis.

If you are entitled to a leave under both the federal FMLA law and a similar state law, you may elect the more favorable leave (but not both). If you are on an FMLA leave due to your own health condition on the date Policy coverage takes effect, you are not considered Actively at Work.

**FULL-TIME**, as it applies to the Partial Disability Benefit, means the average number of hours you were regularly scheduled to work, at your Own Occupation, during the week just prior to:

- (1) the date Disability begins; or
- (2) the date an approved leave of absence begins, if Disability begins while you are continuing coverage during a leave of absence.

**GROUP POLICYHOLDER** means the person, company, trust or other organization as shown on the Title Page of the Policy.

**INJURY** means bodily Injury which results directly from an accident, independently of all other causes. In determining Weekly Benefits, a Disability will be considered caused by a Sickness if:

- (1) the Disability begins more than 60 days after the Injury; or
- (2) the Injury occurred before your Effective Date under the Policy.

The term "Injury" shall not include any:

- (1) condition to which a Sickness, its natural progression or its treatment is a substantial contributing cause (based upon the preponderance of medical evidence);
- (2) condition caused by emotional stress or trauma; infection (except pyogenic bacterial infection of an Injury); or medical or surgical treatment (except when needed solely for an Injury);
- (3) repetitive trauma condition which results from repetitious, physically traumatic activities that occur over time; or
- (4) pregnancy; except for complications that result from an Injury.

## **DEFINITIONS (Continued)**

**INSURANCE MONTH** or **POLICY MONTH** means that period of time:

- (1) beginning at 12:01 a.m. Standard Time, at the Group Policyholder's place of business on the first day of any calendar month; and
- (2) ending at 12:00 midnight on the last day of the same calendar month.

**INSURED PERSON** means a Person for whom Policy coverage is in effect.

**MAIN DUTIES** or **MATERIAL AND SUBSTANTIAL DUTIES** means those job tasks that:

- (1) are normally required to perform your Own Occupation; and
- (2) could not reasonably be modified or omitted.

To determine whether a job task could reasonably be modified or omitted, the Company will apply the Americans with Disabilities Act's standards concerning reasonable accommodation. It will apply the Act's standards, whether or not:

- (1) the Employer is subject to the Act; or
- (2) you have requested such a job accommodation.

An Employer's failure to modify or omit other job tasks does **not** render you unable to perform the Main Duties of the job.

Main Duties include those job tasks:

- (1) as described in the U.S. Department of Labor Dictionary of Occupational Titles; and
- (2) as performed in the general labor market and national economy.

Main Duties are **not** limited to those specific job tasks as performed for a certain firm or at a certain work site.

**MEDICALLY APPROPRIATE TREATMENT** means diagnostic services, consultation, care or services that are consistent with the symptoms or diagnosis causing your Disability. Such treatment must be rendered:

- (1) by a Physician whose license and any specialty are consistent with the disabling condition; and
- (2) according to generally accepted, professionally recognized standards of medical practice.

**MILITARY LEAVE** means a leave of absence that:

- (1) is subject to the federal USERRA law (the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 and any amendments to it);
- (2) is taken in accord with the Employer's leave policy and the federal USERRA law; and
- (3) does not exceed the period required by that law.

**OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD** means a designated timeframe for eligible employees to elect coverage who did not enroll during their initial eligibility period. Evidence of insurability is not required during this period provided certain conditions are met as described in the Schedule of Benefits. Participation in an Open Enrollment Period does not change the Policy provisions related to Waiting Periods or Pre-Existing Condition Limitations. Employees who have been previously declined for coverage may resubmit satisfactory evidence of insurability to apply for initial coverage during this Open Enrollment Period.

**OWN OCCUPATION** or **REGULAR OCCUPATION** means the occupation, trade or profession:

- (1) in which you were employed with the Employer prior to Disability; and
- (2) which was your main source of earned income prior to Disability.

It means a collective description of related jobs, as defined by the U.S. Department of Labor Dictionary of Occupational Titles. It includes any work in the same occupation for pay or profit, regardless of:

- (1) whether such work is with the Employer, with some other firm, or on a self-employed basis; or
- (2) whether a suitable opening is currently available with the Employer or in the local labor market.

## **DEFINITIONS (Continued)**

**PARTIAL DISABILITY** or **PARTIALLY DISABLED** means that, due to an Injury or Sickness, you:

- (1) are unable to perform one or more of the Main Duties of your Own Occupation, or are unable to perform such duties Full-Time; and
- (2) are engaged in Partial Disability Employment.

**PARTIAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT** means you are working at your Own Occupation or any other occupation; however, because of a Partial Disability:

- (1) your hours or production is reduced;
- (2) one or more Main Duties of the job are reassigned; or
- (3) you are working in a lower-paid occupation.

During Partial Disability Employment, your current earnings:

- (1) must be at least 20% of Predisability Income; and
- (2) may not exceed the percentage specified in the Partial Disability Benefit section.

**PERSON** means an Employee of the Employer:

- (1) who is a member of an Employee class which is eligible for coverage under the Policy; and
- (2) who has completed an enrollment form.

**PERSONAL INSURANCE** means the insurance provided by the Policy on Insured Persons.

**PHYSICIAN** means:

- (1) a legally qualified medical doctor who is licensed to practice medicine, to prescribe and administer drugs, or to perform surgery; or
- (2) any other duly licensed medical practitioner who is deemed by state law to be the same as a legally qualified medical doctor.

The medical doctor or other medical practitioner must be acting within the scope of his or her license. He or she must be qualified to provide Medically Appropriate Treatment for your disabling condition.

Physician does **not** include you or your relatives. Relatives include:

- (1) your spouse, siblings, parents, children and grandparents; and
- (2) your spouse's relatives of like degree.

**POLICY** means the group insurance Policy issued by the Company to the Group Policyholder.

**PREDISABILITY INCOME**--See Basic Weekly Earnings definition.

**REGULAR CARE OF A PHYSICIAN** means you:

- (1) personally visit a Physician, as often as medically required according to standard medical practice to effectively manage and treat your disabling condition; and
- (2) receive Medically Appropriate Treatment, by a Physician whose license and any specialty are consistent with the disabling condition.

Such care will be deemed medically necessary until the attending Physician certifies in writing that you have reached your maximum point of recovery and that further treatment would be useless.

**REGULAR OCCUPATION**--See Own Occupation or Regular Occupation definition.



## **DEFINITIONS (Continued)**

**RETIREMENT BENEFIT**, when used with the term Retirement Plan, means a benefit that:

- (1) is payable under a Retirement Plan either in a lump sum or in the form of periodic payments;
- (2) does not represent contributions made by you (Payments representing Employee contributions are deemed to be received over your expected remaining life, regardless of when they are actually received.); and
- (3) is payable upon:
  - (a) early or normal retirement; or
  - (b) disability (if the payment does reduce the benefit which would have been paid at the normal retirement age under the plan, if disability had not occurred).

**RETIREMENT PLAN** means a defined benefit or defined contribution plan that:

- (1) provides Retirement Benefits to Employees; and
- (2) is not funded wholly by Employee contributions.

The term shall **not** include any 401(k), profit-sharing or thrift plan; informal salary continuance plan; individual retirement account (IRA); tax sheltered annuity (TSA); stock ownership plan; or a non-qualified plan of deferred compensation.

An Employer's Retirement Plan is deemed to include any Retirement Plan:

- (1) which is part of any federal, state, county, municipal or association retirement system; and
- (2) for which you are eligible as a result of employment with the Employer.

**SICK LEAVE** or **SALARY CONTINUANCE PLAN** means a plan that:

- (1) is established and maintained by the Employer for the benefit of Employees; and
- (2) continues payment of all or part of your Predisability Income for a specified period after you become Disabled.

It does **not** include compensation the Employer pays you for work actually performed during a Disability.

**SICKNESS** means illness, pregnancy or disease.

**TOTAL DISABILITY** or **TOTALLY DISABLED** means your inability, due to Sickness or Injury, to perform each of the Main Duties of your Own Occupation. A Person engaging in any employment for wage or profit is not Totally Disabled. The loss of a professional license, an occupational license or certification, or a driver's license for any reason does **not**, by itself, constitute Total Disability.

**WAITING PERIOD** means the period of time you must be employed in an eligible class with the Employer, before you become eligible to enroll for coverage under the Policy. The period of service must be continuous, except as explained in the Eligibility provision captioned Prior Service Credit Towards Waiting Period.

**WEEKLY BENEFIT** means the amount payable weekly by the Company to you while you are Totally Disabled or Partially Disabled.

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION OR SIMILAR COVERAGE** means coverage under a law that compensates for job related Injury or Sickness. It includes (but is not limited to):

- (1) coverage under any Workers' Compensation or occupational disease law;
- (2) coverage under the Jones Act; the Longshoreman's and Harbor Worker's Act; the Maritime Doctrine of Maintenance, Wages or Cure; or
- (3) any plan provided in place of one of those plans.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

**ENTIRE CONTRACT.** The entire contract between the parties shall consist of:

- (1) the Policy and any amendments to it;
- (2) the Group Policyholder's application (a copy of which is attached to the Policy);
- (3) any Participating Employers' applications or Participation Agreements; and
- (4) any individual applications of Insured Persons.

In the absence of fraud, all statements made by the Group Policyholder and by Insured Persons are representations and not warranties. No statement made by an Insured Person will be used to contest the coverage provided by the Policy, unless:

- (1) it is contained in a written statement signed by that Insured Person; and
- (2) a copy of the statement has been furnished to that Insured Person.

**INCONTESTABILITY.** Except for the non-payment of premiums or fraud, the Company may not contest the validity of the Policy after it has been in force for two years from its date of issue; and as to any Insured Person, after his or her coverage has been in force for two years during his or her lifetime. This clause does not preclude, at any time, the assertion of defenses based upon:

- (1) the Policy's eligibility requirements, exclusions and limitations; and
- (2) other Policy provisions unrelated to the validity of coverage.

**RESCISSION.** The Company has the right to rescind any insurance for which Evidence of Insurability was required, if:

- (1) you incur a claim during the first two years of coverage; and
- (2) the Company discovers that you made a Material Misrepresentation on your application.

A "**Material Misrepresentation**" is an incomplete or untrue statement that caused the Company to issue coverage that it would have disapproved, had it known the truth. "**To rescind**" means to cancel insurance back to its effective date. In that event, the Company will refund all premium paid for the rescinded insurance, less any benefits paid for your claims. The Company reserves the right to recover any claims paid in excess of such premiums.

**MISSTATEMENTS OF FACTS.** If relevant facts about any Person were misstated:

- (1) a fair adjustment of the premium will be made; and
- (2) the true facts will decide if and in what amount insurance is valid under the Policy.

If your age has been misstated, any benefits shall be in the amount the paid premium would have purchased at the correct age.

**GROUP POLICYHOLDER'S AGENCY.** For all purposes of the Policy, the Group Policyholder acts on its own behalf or as an agent of the Insured Person. Under no circumstances will the Group Policyholder be deemed the agent of the Company.

**CURRENCY.** In administering the Policy:

- (1) all Predisability Income will be expressed in U.S. dollars; and
- (2) all premium and benefits must be paid in U.S. dollars.

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION OR STATE DISABILITY INSURANCE.** The Policy does not replace or provide benefits required by:

- (1) Workers' Compensation laws; or
- (2) any state temporary disability insurance plan laws.

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**  
**(Continued)**

**ASSIGNMENT.** The rights and benefits under this Certificate may not be assigned.

## ELIGIBILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATES

**ELIGIBLE CLASSES.** The classes of Employees eligible for insurance are shown in the Schedule of Insurance. The Company has the right to review and terminate any or all classes eligible under the Policy, if any class ceases to be covered by the Policy.

**ELIGIBILITY.** A Person becomes eligible for coverage provided by the Policy on the later of:

- (1) the Policy's date of issue; or
- (2) the date the Waiting Period is completed.

**Prior Service Credit Towards Waiting Period.** The Waiting Period is shown in the Schedule of Insurance. Prior service in an Eligible Class will apply toward the Waiting Period, when:

- (1) you are a former Employee and are rehired within one year after your employment ends;
- (2) you return from an approved Family or Medical Leave within:
  - (a) the 12-week period required by federal law; or
  - (b) any longer period required by a similar state law; or
- (3) you return from a Military Leave within the period required by federal USERRA law.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Your initial amount of Personal Insurance becomes effective at 12:01 a.m. on the latest of:

- (1) the first day of the Insurance Month coinciding with or next following the date you become eligible for the coverage;
- (2) the date you resume Active Work, if not Actively at Work on the day you become eligible;
- (3) the date you make written application for coverage and sign:
  - (a) a payroll deduction order, if you pay any part of the Policy premiums; or
  - (b) an order to pay premiums from your Flexible Benefits Plan account, if Employer contributions are made through such an account; or
- (4) the date the Company approves your Evidence of Insurability, if required.

Any increased or additional coverage becomes effective at 12:01 a.m. on the latest of:

- (1) the first day of the Insurance Month coinciding with or next following the day on which you become eligible for the increase, if Actively at Work on that day;
- (2) the date you resume Active Work, if not Actively at Work on the day the increase would otherwise take effect; or
- (3) the date any required Evidence of Insurability is approved by the Company.

Any decrease will take effect on the day of the change, whether or not you are Actively at Work.

**Evidence of Insurability.** Evidence of Insurability satisfactory to the Company must be submitted (at your expense); when:

- (1) you make written application for coverage (or an increased amount of coverage) more than 31 days after becoming eligible for the coverage; or
- (2) you make written application for coverage after you have requested:
  - (a) to cancel insurance;
  - (b) to stop payroll deductions for the insurance; or
  - (c) to stop premium payments from the Flexible Benefits Plan account.

**Effective Date for Change in Eligible Class.** You may become a member of a different Eligible Class. Coverage under the different Eligible Class will be effective:

- (1) on the first day of the Insurance Month coinciding with or next following the date of the change;
- (2) except as stated in the Effective Date provision for increases or decreases.

**ELIGIBILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATES**  
**(Continued)**

**REINSTATEMENT RIGHTS.** If your coverage terminates due to one of the following breaks in service, you will be entitled to reinstate the coverage upon resuming Active Work with the Employer within the required timeframe. "**Reinstatement**" or "**to reinstate**" means to re-enroll for Policy coverage, without satisfying a new Waiting Period or providing Evidence of Insurability. Reinstatement is available upon:

- (1) return from an approved Family or Medical Leave within:
  - (a) the 12-week period required by federal law; or
  - (b) any longer period required by a similar state law;
- (2) return from a Military Leave within the period required by federal USERRA law;
- (3) return from any other approved leave of absence within six months after the leave begins;
- (4) return within 12 months following a lay off; or
- (5) return within 12 months following termination of employment for any other reason.

To reinstate coverage, you must apply for coverage or be re-enrolled within 31 days after resuming Active Work in an Eligible Class. The reinstated amount of insurance may not exceed the amount that terminated. Reinstatement will take effect on the date you return to Active Work.

If the above conditions are met, and the Policy includes a Pre-Existing Condition Exclusion, then:

- (1) the months of leave will count towards any unmet Pre-Existing Condition Exclusion period;  
and
- (2) a new Pre-Existing Condition Exclusion will not apply to the reinstated amount of insurance.

A new Pre-Existing Condition Exclusion will apply to any increased amount of insurance.

## INDIVIDUAL TERMINATIONS

**TERMINATION OF COVERAGE.** Your coverage will terminate at 12:00 midnight on the earliest of:

- (1) the date the Policy terminates or the Employer's participation ends (but without prejudice to any claim incurred prior to termination);
- (2) the date your class is no longer eligible for insurance;
- (3) the date you cease to be a member of an Eligible Class;
- (4) the last day of the Insurance Month in which you request termination;
- (5) the last day of the last Insurance Month for which premium payment is made on your behalf;
- (6) the end of the period for which the last required premium has been paid;
- (7) with respect to any particular insurance benefit, the day the portion of the Policy providing that benefit terminates;
- (8) the date your employment with the Group Policyholder or Participating Employer terminates (unless coverage is continued as provided below); or
- (9) the date you enter the armed services of any state or country on active duty, except for duty of 30 days or less for training in the Reserves or National Guard. (If you send proof of military service, the Company will refund any unearned premium.)

**CONTINUATION RIGHTS.** Ceasing Active Work results in termination of your eligibility for coverage, but coverage may be continued as follows.

**Disability.** If you are absent due to Total Disability or engaged in Partial Disability Employment, coverage may be continued:

- (1) until the Day Benefits Begin; and
- (2) during the period for which benefits are payable.

The Company must receive the required premium from the Employer until the first day of the Insurance Month coinciding with or next following the Day Benefits Begin.

Premium payments for Weekly Disability Income Insurance will be waived:

- (1) from the first day of the Insurance Month coinciding with or next following the Day Benefits Begin;
- (2) until the first day of the Insurance Month coinciding with or next following the end of the period for which benefits are payable.

If coverage is to be continued following a period for which premiums were waived, premium payments must be resumed as they become due.

**Family or Medical Leave.** If you go on an approved Family or Medical Leave and are **not** entitled to the more favorable continuation available during Disability, coverage may be continued until the earliest of:

- (1) the end of the leave period approved by the Employer;
- (2) the end of the leave period required by federal law, or any more favorable period required by a similar state law;
- (3) the date you notify the Employer that you will not return; or
- (4) the date you begin employment with another employer.

The required premium payments must be received from the Employer, throughout the period of continued coverage.

**Military Leave.** If you go on a Military Leave, coverage may be continued for the same period allowed for an approved Family or Medical Leave. The required premium payments must be received from the Employer, throughout the period of continued coverage.

**Lay Off or Other Leave.** If you cease work due to a temporary lay off, or due to an approved leave of absence (other than an approved Family or Medical Leave or a Military Leave); coverage may be continued for three Insurance Months after the lay off or leave begins. The required premium payments must be received from the Employer, throughout the period of continued coverage.

**INDIVIDUAL TERMINATIONS  
(Continued)**

**Conditions.** In administering the above continuations, the Employer must not act so as to discriminate unfairly among Insured Persons in similar situations. Insurance may **not** be continued when you cease Active Work due to a labor dispute, strike, work slowdown or lockout.

**INDIVIDUAL TERMINATION DURING DISABILITY.** Termination of your coverage during a Disability will have no effect on benefits payable for that period of Disability.

## CLAIMS PROCEDURES FOR WEEKLY DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS

**NOTICE AND PROOF OF CLAIM -- Notice of Claim.** Written notice of a Disability claim must be given:

- (1) within 20 days after the Injury or Sickness causing Disability begins; or
- (2) as soon as reasonably possible after that.\*

The notice must be sent to the Company's Group Insurance Service Office. It should include your name and address, and the number of the Policy.

**Claim Forms.** When notice of claim is received, the Company will send claim forms for filing the required proof. If the Company does not send the forms within 15 days, you may send the Company written proof of Disability in a letter. It should state the date the Disability began, its cause and degree. The Company will periodically send you additional claim forms.

**Proof of Claim.** The Company must be given written proof of a Disability claim:

- (1) within 90 days after the Day Benefits Begin; or
- (2) as soon as reasonably possible after that.\*

Proof of claim must be provided at your own expense. It must show the date the Disability began, its cause and degree. Documentation must include the following:

- (1) completed statements by you and your Employer;
- (2) a completed statement by the attending Physician, which must describe any restrictions on the performance of the duties of your Regular Occupation;
- (3) proof of any other income received, and of any other benefits available from other income sources, which may affect Policy benefits;
- (4) a signed authorization for the Company to obtain more information; and
- (5) any other items the Company may reasonably require in support of the claim.

Proof of continued Disability, Regular Care of a Physician, and any Other Income Benefits affecting the claim must be given to the Company. It should be supplied within 45 days after the Company requests it. If it is not, benefits may be suspended. Such proof must be supplied within 180 days after the end of the period for which the Company is liable; or as soon as reasonably possible after that.\*

**\*Exception:** Failure to give notice or furnish proof of claim within the required time period will not invalidate or reduce the claim, if it is shown that it was done:

- (1) as soon as reasonably possible; and
- (2) in no event more than one year after it was required.

These time limits will not apply while you lack legal capacity.

**EXAMINATION.** The Company may have you examined:

- (1) by a Physician, specialist or vocational rehabilitation expert of the Company's choice;
- (2) as often as reasonably required while a claim or appeal is pending.

Any such exam will be at the Company's expense.

The Company may determine that (in its opinion) you have:

- (1) failed to cooperate with an examiner;
- (2) failed to take an exam scheduled by the Company; or
- (3) postponed such an exam more than twice.

In that event, benefits may be denied or suspended, until the required exam is completed.

**TIME OF PAYMENT OF CLAIMS.** Weekly Disability Income Benefits payable under the Policy will be paid immediately after the Company receives complete proof of claim and confirms liability. Such benefits will be paid biweekly, during any period for which the Company is liable. If benefits are due for less than a week, they will be paid on a pro rata basis. The daily rate will equal 1/7 of the Weekly Benefit. Any balance, which remains unpaid at the end of the period of liability, will be paid immediately after the Company receives complete proof of claim and confirms liability.



## CLAIMS PROCEDURES (Continued)

**TO WHOM PAYABLE.** All Weekly Disability Income Benefits are payable to you, while living. After your death, such benefits will be payable to your estate.

**NOTICE OF CLAIM DECISION.** The Company will send you a written notice of its claim decision. If the Company denies any part of the claim, the written notice will explain:

- (1) the reason for the denial, under the terms of the Policy and any internal guidelines;
- (2) how you may request a review of the Company's decision; and
- (3) whether more information is needed to support the claim.

This notice will be sent within 15 days after the Company resolves the claim. It will be sent within 45 days after the Company receives the first proof of claim, if reasonably possible.

**Delay Notice.** The Company may need more than 15 days to process the claim, due to matters beyond its control. If so, an extension will be permitted. In that event, the Company will send you a written delay notice:

- (1) by the 15<sup>th</sup> day after receiving the first proof of claim; and
- (2) every 30 days after that, until the claim is resolved.

The notice will explain:

- (1) what additional information is needed to determine liability; and
- (2) when a decision can be expected.

If you do not receive a written decision by the 105th day after the Company receives the first proof of claim, there is a right to an immediate review, as if the claim was denied.

**Exception:** The Company may need more information from you to process a claim. If so, it must be supplied within 45 days after the Company requests it. The resulting delay will not count towards the above time limits for claim processing.

**REVIEW PROCEDURE.** Within 180 days after receiving a denial notice, you may request a claim review by sending the Company:

- (1) a written request; and
- (2) any written comments or other items to support the claim.

You may review certain non-privileged information relating to the request for review.

**Notice of Decision.** The Company will review the claim and send you a written notice of its decision. The notice will state the reasons for the Company's decision, under the terms of the Policy and any internal guidelines. If the Company upholds the denial of all or part of the claim, the notice will also describe:

- (1) any further appeal procedures available under the Policy;
- (2) the right to access relevant claim information; and
- (3) the right to request a state insurance department review, or to bring legal action.

This notice will be sent within 45 days after the Company receives the request for review, or within 90 days if a special case requires more time.

**Delay Notice.** If the Company needs more than 45 days to process an appeal, in a special case:

- (1) an extension of up to 45 more days will be permitted; and
- (2) the Company will send you a written delay notice, by the 30<sup>th</sup> day after receiving the request for review.

The notice will explain:

- (1) the special circumstances which require the delay;
- (2) whether more information is needed to review the claim; and
- (3) when a decision can be expected.

## **CLAIMS PROCEDURES** **(Continued)**

**Exception:** The Company may need more information from you to process an appeal. If so, it must be supplied within 45 days after the Company requests it. The resulting delay will not count towards the above time limits for appeal processing.

**Claims Subject to ERISA (Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974).** Before bringing a civil legal action under the federal labor law known as ERISA, an employee benefit plan participant or beneficiary must exhaust available administrative remedies. Under the Policy, the plan participant or beneficiary must first seek two administrative reviews of the adverse claim decision, in accord with this section. After the required reviews:

- (1) an ERISA plan participant or beneficiary may bring legal action under Section 502(a) of ERISA; and
- (2) the Company will waive any right to assert that he or she failed to exhaust administrative remedies.

**RIGHT OF RECOVERY.** If benefits have been overpaid on any claim, full reimbursement to the Company is required within 60 days. If reimbursement is not made, the Company has the right to:

- (1) reduce future benefits and suspend payment of the Minimum Weekly Benefit under the Policy, until full reimbursement is made;
- (2) reduce benefits payable to you or your beneficiary under any group insurance policy issued by the Company, until full reimbursement is made; or
- (3) recover such overpayments from you or your estate.

Such reimbursement is required whether the overpayment is due to fraud, the Company's error in processing a claim, or any other reason.

**LEGAL ACTIONS.** No legal action to recover any benefits may be brought until 60 days after the required written proof of claim has been given. No such legal action may be brought more than three years after the date written proof of claim is required.

**COMPANY'S DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY.** Except for the functions that the Policy clearly reserves to the Group Policyholder or Employer, the Company has the authority to manage the Policy, interpret its provisions, administer claims and resolve questions arising under it. The Company's authority includes (but is not limited to) the right to:

- (1) establish administrative procedures, determine eligibility and resolve claims questions;
- (2) determine what information the Company reasonably requires to make such decisions; and
- (3) resolve all matters when an internal claim review is requested.

Any decision the Company makes in the exercise of its authority shall be conclusive and binding; subject to your rights to request a state insurance department review or to bring legal action.

This provision does not apply to residents of California.

## PORTABILITY

**ELIGIBILITY.** The Policy provides portability for up to 12 months, when your insurance under the Policy terminates because your employment with the Employer ends; provided:

- (1) you are not disabled, retired or on a leave of absence; and
- (2) you were insured under the Employer's short term disability plan for at least 12 months in a row, just prior to the date employment ended. The 12 months may be a combination of coverage under the Policy, and under any prior group short term disability plan the Policy replaces.

Continuation of insurance under the Portability provision will follow any state required continuation or other continuation allowed under the Ceasing Active Work section of the Policy.

Portability is not available to you if your insurance terminates because:

- (1) your Employer ceases to be a Participating Employer; or
- (2) the Policy is terminated by the Employer or the Company.

**NOTE: THE BENEFITS CONTINUED UNDER THE PORTABILITY PROVISION ARE NOT THE SAME BENEFIT PROVISIONS PROVIDED UNDER THE POLICY.**

**APPLICATION.** To continue insurance under the Portability provision, written application and the first premium payment must be made within 31 days of the date insurance ends under the Policy.

**AMOUNT OF COVERAGE.** The amount of continued insurance may not exceed the amount in force when employment ends. Continued insurance may not be increased. A former Employee may decrease the amount of continued insurance:

- (1) at any time during the continuation period;
- (2) by completing a request form supplied by the Company.

The decrease will take effect on the first day of the Insurance Month after the Company receives the request.

**PAYMENT OF PREMIUMS.** Premiums for continued insurance under the Portability provision shall be derived solely from your contributions. For Portability coverage to become effective and remain in effect, you must make premium payment for your continued insurance directly to the Company, on or before each premium due date. The Company will send you a billing statement in advance of each premium due date. You are responsible for paying all premiums as they become due.

The required premium will equal:

- (1) the rate in effect for the continued coverage provided under the Portability Trust Policy; plus
- (2) a direct billing fee.

**TERMINATION OF COVERAGE.** Continued insurance will end on the earliest of:

- (1) the date insurance under this Portability provision has been continued for 12 months;
- (2) the date the Portability Trust Policy terminates; but without prejudice to any claim incurred prior to termination;
- (3) the last day of the Insurance Month in which termination of the continued insurance is requested;
- (4) the end of the period for which premium has been paid;
- (5) the date you die or retire;
- (6) the date you enter the armed services of any state or country on active duty; except for duty of 30 days or less for training in the Reserves or National Guard. (If you send proof of military service, the Company will refund any unearned premium);
- (7) the date you are reinstated for coverage under the Policy; or
- (8) the date you are covered under any other group short term disability plan.

## WEEKLY DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE

**TOTAL DISABILITY BENEFIT.** The Company will pay a Weekly Total Disability Benefit for each week the Total Disability continues, if you:

- (1) become Totally Disabled while insured for this benefit;
- (2) are under the Regular Care of a Physician; and
- (3) submit proof of continued Total Disability and Physician's care to the Company upon request.

**Duration.** Benefits start on the Day Benefits Begin, and end on the earliest of:

- (1) the date you cease to be Totally Disabled or die;
- (2) the date the Maximum Benefit Period ends; or
- (3) the date you are able, but choose not to engage in Partial Disability Employment in your Own Occupation.

Proportional benefits will be paid for a partial week of Total Disability.

At the Company's option, benefits may also be denied or suspended on any of the following dates:

- (1) the date you (without good cause):
  - (a) fail to take a required medical exam;
  - (b) fail to cooperate with an examiner; or
  - (c) postpone a required exam more than twice; or
- (2) the 45<sup>th</sup> day after the Company requests additional proof, if not given.

**Amount.** The amount of the Weekly Total Disability Benefit equals:

- (1) your Basic Weekly Earnings multiplied by the Benefit Percentage; or
- (2) the Maximum Weekly Benefit, if less.

The Day Benefits Begin, Maximum Benefit Period, Benefit Percentage, and Maximum Weekly Benefit are shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**PARTIAL DISABILITY BENEFIT.** The Company will pay a Weekly Partial Disability Benefit, if you:

- (1) become Partially Disabled while insured for this benefit;
- (2) are engaged in Partial Disability Employment;
- (3) are earning at least 20% of Basic Weekly Earnings when Partial Disability Employment begins;
- (4) are under the Regular Care of a Physician; and
- (5) submit proof of continued Partial Disability, Physician's care and reduced earnings to the Company upon request.

You are not required to be Totally Disabled prior to receiving Weekly Partial Disability Benefits. The Day Benefits Begin may be reached by days of Total Disability, Partial Disability, or any combination of these. Proportional benefits will be paid for a partial week of Partial Disability.

**Duration.** Benefits start on the Day Benefits Begin, and will cease on the earliest of:

- (1) the date you cease to be Partially Disabled or die;
- (2) the date the Maximum Benefit Period ends;
- (3) the date you earn more than 99% of Basic Weekly Earnings; or
- (4) the date you are able, but choose not to work Full-Time or part-time in your Own Occupation.

**WEEKLY DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE**  
**(Continued)**

At the Company's option, benefits may also be denied or suspended on any of the following dates:

- (1) the date you (without good cause):
  - (a) fail to take a required medical exam;
  - (b) fail to cooperate with an examiner; or
  - (c) postpone a required exam more than twice; or
- (2) the 45<sup>th</sup> day after the Company requests additional proof, if not given.

**Amount.** The amount of the Weekly Partial Disability Benefit equals the lesser of A or B below:

- (A) Your Basic Weekly Earnings multiplied by the Benefit Percentage (limited to the Maximum Weekly Benefit); or
- (B) Your Basic Weekly Earnings minus earnings you earned or received from any occupation or form of employment during that period of Disability.

The amount of the Weekly Partial Disability Benefit will not be less than the Minimum Weekly Benefit.

The Day Benefits Begin, Maximum Benefit Period, Benefit Percentage, Maximum Weekly Benefit, and Minimum Weekly Benefit are shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

**WEEKLY DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE**  
**(Continued)**

**RULES CONCERNING EARNINGS AND OTHER BENEFITS.** Your Earnings during Partial Disability Employment may affect the amount of the Weekly Benefit. Also, the Disability may entitle you to other benefits, awards or settlements that affect eligibility for Policy benefits. If so, the following rules will apply.

**"Earnings"**, as used in this provision, means pay you earn or receive from any occupation or form of employment, as reported for federal income tax purposes. Earnings include (but are not limited to) a:

- (1) salaried or hourly Employee's gross earnings (shown on Form W-2); including:
  - (a) wages, tips, commissions, bonuses and overtime pay; and
  - (b) any pre-tax contributions to a Section 125 Plan, flexible spending account, or qualified deferred compensation plan;
- (2) proprietor's net profit (figured from Form 1040, Schedule C);
- (3) professional corporation shareholder's net profit (figured from Form 1040, Schedule C);
- (4) partner's net earnings from self-employment (shown on Schedule K-1) and any W-2 earnings; and
- (5) Subchapter S Corporation shareholder's net earnings from trade or business activities (shown on Schedule K-1).

**Claiming Other Benefits.** You must actively pursue a claim for the other benefits. For example, if Workers' Compensation benefits may be payable for the same period of Disability:

- (1) you and your Employer must cooperate in filing a claim for those benefits; and
- (2) the Company will require proof of the denial or duration of those benefits, to determine its liability under the Policy.

**Refunding Overpayments.** Upon receiving other benefits for the same period of Disability, you must refund any resulting overpayment of Weekly Benefits under the Policy. If you do not promptly refund an overpayment to the Company within 60 days, in a lump sum, then:

- (1) the Company will reduce or eliminate future payments; and
- (2) the Minimum Weekly Benefit will not apply, until the amount is repaid.

**RECURRENT DISABILITY.** **"Recurrent Disability"** means a Disability caused by an Injury or Sickness which is the same as, or related to, the cause of a prior Disability for which Weekly Benefits were payable.

- (1) A Recurrent Disability will be treated as a new period of Disability, if you:
  - (a) have returned to your Own Occupation; and
  - (b) have worked on a full-time basis, for two consecutive weeks or more.A new Day Benefits Begin and new Maximum Benefit Period will apply.
- (2) A Recurrent Disability will be treated as part of the prior Disability, if you:
  - (a) have returned to your Own Occupation; and
  - (b) have worked on a full-time basis, for less than two consecutive weeks.The same Day Benefits Begin and same Maximum Benefit Period will apply to the Recurrent Disability as to the prior Disability.

To qualify for a Weekly Benefit for a Recurrent Disability, you must earn less than the percentage of Predisability Income specified in the Partial Disability Benefit section. Benefit payments will be subject to all other terms of the Policy that applied to the prior Disability. This Recurrent Disability provision will cease to apply when you become eligible for coverage under any other group short-term disability policy.

**WEEKLY DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE**  
**(Continued)**

**EXCLUSIONS.** Weekly Benefits will not be payable for any period of Disability:

- (1) which is the result of an intentionally self-inflicted Injury or suicide attempt;
- (2) during which you are not under the Regular Care of a Physician;
- (3) which is the result of war (declared or undeclared) or any act of war;
- (4) which is the result of a Sickness or Injury for which you receive benefits under Workers' Compensation or similar coverage;
- (5) which arises out of (or in the course of) any employment for wage or profit, when the Disability would be covered by Workers' Compensation or similar coverage if:
  - (a) the Employer had enrolled you for such coverage; and
  - (b) you and your Employer had cooperated in filing a claim under that plan;
- (6) during which you are eligible to receive disability benefits under any other compulsory benefit act or law;
- (7) during which you receive payment under the Employer's Sick Leave or Salary Continuance Plan; or
- (8) during which you receive Disability Benefits or Retirement Benefits under the Employer's Retirement Plan.

**PRE-EXISTING CONDITION LIMITATION.** The Policy will not cover any period of Disability:

- (1) which is caused or contributed to by, or results from a Pre-Existing Condition; and
- (2) which begins in the first 12 months after your Effective Date.

**"Pre-Existing Condition"** means a Sickness or Injury for which you received Treatment within 6 months prior to your Effective Date.

**"Treatment"** means consultation, care and services by a Physician. It includes diagnostic measures and the prescription, refill and taking of prescribed drugs or medicines.

## VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION BENEFIT

**BENEFIT.** If you are Disabled and are receiving Weekly Benefits under the Policy, you may be eligible for a Vocational Rehabilitation Benefit. This benefit consists of services which may include:

- (1) vocational evaluation, counseling, training or job placement;
- (2) job modification or special equipment; and
- (3) other services which the Company deems reasonably necessary to help you return to work.

The Company will determine your eligibility and the amount of any benefit payable.

**ELIGIBILITY.** You may be eligible for the Vocational Rehabilitation Benefit if the Company finds that you:

- (1) have a Disability that prevents the performance of the Main Duties of your Own Occupation;
- (2) have the physical and mental abilities needed to complete a Rehabilitation Program; and
- (3) are reasonably expected to return to work after completing the Rehabilitation Program; in view of your degree of motivation and the labor force demand for workers in the proposed occupation.

The Company must also find that the cost of the proposed services is less than its expected claim liability.

**AMOUNT.** The amount of any Vocational Rehabilitation Benefit will not exceed the Company's expected claims liability. This benefit will not be payable for services covered under your health care plan or any other vocational rehabilitation program. Payment may be made to the provider of the services, at the Company's option.

**CONDITIONS.** The Company, you, or your Physician may first propose vocational rehabilitation. When a Rehabilitation Program is approved by the Company, the Policy's definition of "Disability" will be waived during the rehabilitation period; however, it will be reapplied after the Rehabilitation Program ends. The Company will determine the amount and duration of any Weekly Disability benefits payable after the Rehabilitation Program ends.

**LIMITATION.** The Policy will not cover any period of Disability if you have received a Vocational Rehabilitation Benefit and have failed to complete the Rehabilitation Program, without Good Cause.

### DEFINITIONS.

**"Good Cause,"** as used in this provision, means your:

- (1) documented physical or mental impairments, which render you unable to take part in or complete a Rehabilitation Program;
- (2) involvement in a medical program, which prevents or interferes with your taking part in or completing a Rehabilitation Program; or
- (3) participating in good faith in some other vocational rehabilitation program, which:
  - (a) conflicts with taking part in or completing a Rehabilitation Program developed by the Company; and
  - (b) is reasonably expected to return you to work.

**"Rehabilitation Program"** means a written vocational rehabilitation program:

- (1) which the Company develops with input from:
  - (a) you;
  - (b) your Physician; and
  - (c) any current or prospective employer, when appropriate; and
- (2) which describes the Program's goals; each party's responsibilities; and the times, dates and costs of the rehabilitation services.

**OTHER PROVISIONS.** Unless stated otherwise, this benefit is subject to all the Definitions, Exclusions, Claims Procedures, and other provisions of the Policy.



## **REHABILITATION INCENTIVE BENEFIT**

**BENEFIT.** The Company will pay you a Rehabilitation Incentive Benefit if you are Totally or Partially Disabled and actively participating in a Rehabilitation Program approved by the Company.

**AMOUNT.** The amount of the Rehabilitation Incentive Benefit is shown in the Schedule of Insurance.

The Rehabilitation Incentive Benefit is paid in addition to any other Policy benefits, and is not subject to Policy provisions that would otherwise reduce the benefit amount, such as the Other Income Benefits provision.

**DURATION.** The Rehabilitation Incentive Benefit starts on the latest of:

- (1) the date you begin to participate in an approved Rehabilitation Program; or
- (2) the date the Company approves your Rehabilitation Program.

The Rehabilitation Incentive Benefit will cease on the earliest of:

- (1) the date the Weekly Total or Partial Disability Benefits would otherwise cease under the Policy; or
- (2) the date you cease participation in an approved Rehabilitation Program.

### **DEFINITION.**

**"Rehabilitation Program"** means a written vocational rehabilitation program:

- (1) which the Company develops with input from:
  - (a) you;
  - (b) your Physician; and
  - (c) any current or prospective employer, when appropriate; and
- (2) which describes the Program's goals; each party's responsibilities; and the times, dates and costs of the rehabilitation services.

**PROOF.** Written proof of active participation in a Rehabilitation Program must be given:

- (1) within 180 days after the Day Benefits Begin; or
- (2) as soon as reasonably possible after that.

Proof of active participation must be provided at your own expense. The proof must be sent to the Company's Group Insurance Service Office. It should include your name and address and the number of the Policy.

**Exception:** Failure to furnish proof of active participation in a Rehabilitation Program within the required time period will not invalidate the benefit, if it is shown that it was done:

- (1) as soon as reasonably possible; and
- (2) in no event more than one year after it was required.

These time limits will not apply while you lack legal capacity.

**OTHER PROVISIONS.** Unless stated otherwise, this benefit is subject to all the Definitions, Exclusions, Claims Procedures, and other provisions of the Policy.

## REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION BENEFIT

**BENEFIT.** If you are Disabled and are receiving Weekly Benefits under the Policy, then the Group Policyholder may be eligible for a Reasonable Accommodation benefit. This benefit reimburses the Group Policyholder for 50% of the expense incurred for reasonable accommodation services for you, but will not exceed the lesser of:

- (1) a maximum benefit of \$2500 for any one Insured Person; or
- (2) the Company's expected liability for your Weekly Disability Income claim.

Such services may include:

- (1) providing you a more accessible parking space or entrance;
- (2) removing barriers or hazards to you from the worksite;
- (3) special seating, furniture or equipment for your work station;
- (4) providing special training materials or translation services during your training; and
- (5) other services the Company deems reasonably necessary to help you return to work with the Group Policyholder.

**ELIGIBILITY.** The Company will determine the Group Policyholder's eligibility to receive the Reasonable Accommodation benefit. To qualify for the Reasonable Accommodation benefit, the Group Policyholder must have an Insured Person:

- (1) whose Disability prevents the performance of his or her Own Occupation at the Group Policyholder's worksite;
- (2) who has the physical and mental abilities needed to perform his or her Own Occupation or another occupation at the Group Policyholder's worksite, but only with the help of the proposed accommodation; and
- (3) who is reasonably expected to return to work with the help of the proposed accommodation.

The Company must also find that the requested Reasonable Accommodation benefit is less than the expected liability for your Weekly Disability Income claim.

**WRITTEN PROPOSAL.** The reasonable accommodation services must be provided in accord with a written proposal, which is developed with input from:

- (1) the Group Policyholder;
- (2) you; and
- (3) your Physician, when appropriate.

The proposal must state:

- (1) the purpose of the proposed accommodation; and
- (2) the times, dates, and costs of the services.

**CONDITIONS.** The Company, the Group Policyholder, you, or your Physician may first propose an accommodation.

The proposal must be approved by the Company in writing.

The Company will reimburse the Group Policyholder upon receipt of proof that the Group Policyholder:

- (1) has provided the services for you; and
- (2) has paid the provider for the services.

**OTHER PROVISIONS.** Unless stated otherwise, the Reasonable Accommodation benefit is subject to all the Definitions, Exclusions, Claims Procedures, and other provisions of the Policy.

## **FAMILY INCOME BENEFIT**

**BENEFIT.** The Company will pay a benefit to the Eligible Survivor(s) when satisfactory written proof is received that you died:

- (1) after Disability had continued for at least 14 consecutive days; and
- (2) while receiving a Weekly Benefit.

If payment becomes due to your children; then payment will be made to:

- (1) the surviving children, in equal shares; or
- (2) a person named by the Company to receive payments on the children's behalf.

This payment will be valid and effective against all claims by others representing, or claiming to represent, your children.

If there are no Eligible Survivors, payment will be made to your estate.

**AMOUNT.** The Family Income Benefit is shown in the Schedule of Insurance. Reductions for Other Income Benefits will not apply.

If any state disability plan compulsory death benefits become payable upon your death, then any Family Income Benefit amount payable will be reduced by such compulsory death benefits.

### **DEFINITION.**

**"Eligible Survivor(s)"** means your:

- (1) surviving spouse; or, if none,
- (2) surviving children who are under age 25 on your date of death.

**OTHER PROVISIONS.** Unless stated otherwise, this benefit is subject to all the Definitions, Exclusions, Claims Procedures, and other provisions of the Policy.

**NOTICE CONCERNING COVERAGE  
LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS UNDER THE NORTH CAROLINA  
LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION ACT**

Residents of this state who purchase life insurance, annuities or health insurance should know that the insurance companies and Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) licensed in this state to write these types of insurance are members of the North Carolina Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association. The purpose of this association is to assure that policyholders will be protected, within limits, in the unlikely event that a member insurer or HMO becomes financially unable to meet its obligations. If this should happen, the guaranty association will assess its other member insurance companies for the money to pay the claims of insured persons who live in this state and, in some cases, to keep coverage in force. The valuable extra protection provided by these insurers through the guaranty association is not unlimited, however. And, as noted *in the box* below, this protection is not a substitute for consumers' care in selecting companies that are well-managed and financially stable.

**The North Carolina Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association may not provide coverage for this policy. If coverage is provided, it may be subject to substantial limitations or exclusions, and require continued residency in North Carolina. You should not rely on coverage by the North Carolina Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association in selecting an insurance company or in selecting an insurance policy.**

**Coverage is NOT provided for your policy or any portion of it that is not guaranteed by the insurer or for which you have assumed the risk, such as a variable contract sold by prospectus.**

**Insurance companies or their agents are required by law to give or send you this notice. However, insurance companies and their agents are prohibited by law from using the existence of the guaranty association to induce you to purchase any kind of insurance policy.**

The North Carolina Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association  
Post Office Box #10218  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27605-0218

North Carolina Department of Insurance  
Consumer Services Division  
1201 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1201

The state law that provides for this safety-net coverage is called the North Carolina Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association Act. *On the back of this page* is a brief summary of this law's coverages, exclusions and limits. This summary does not cover all provisions of the law; nor does it in any way change anyone's rights or obligations under the act or the rights or obligations of the guaranty association.

## Coverage

Generally, individuals will be protected by the life and health insurance guaranty association if they live in this state and hold a life or health insurance contract, or an annuity, or if they are insured under a group insurance contract, issued by a member insurer or HMO. The beneficiaries, payees or assignees of insured persons are protected as well, even if they live in another state.

## Exclusions From Coverage

**However, persons holding such policies are not protected by this association if:**

- They are eligible for protection under the laws of another state (this may occur when the insolvent insurer was incorporated in another state whose guaranty association protects insureds who live outside that state);
- The insurer was not authorized to do business in this state;
- Their policy was issued by a fraternal benefit society, a mandatory state pooling plan, a mutual assessment company or similar plan in which the policyholder is subject to future assessments, or by an insurance exchange;
- They acquired rights to receive payments through a structured settlement factoring transaction.

**The association also does not provide coverage for:**

- Any policy or portion of a policy which is not guaranteed by the insurer or for which the individual has assumed the risk, such as a variable contract sold by prospectus;
- Any policy of reinsurance (unless an assumption certificate was issued);
- Interest rate yields that exceed the average rate specified in the law;
- Dividends;
- Experience or other credits given in connection with the administration of a policy for a group contract holder;
- Employers' plans to the extent they are self-funded (that is, not insured by an insurance company, even if an insurance company administers them);
- Unallocated annuity contracts (which give rights to group contract holders, not individuals), unless they fund a government lottery or a benefit plan of an employer, association or union, except that unallocated annuities issued to employee benefit plans protected by the Federal Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation are not covered; or
- A policy or contract commonly known as Medicare Part C, Medicare Part D, Medicaid or any regulations issued pursuant thereto.

## Limits On Amount Of Coverage

The act also limits the amount the association is obligated to pay out as follows:

- (1) The guaranty association cannot pay more than what the insurance company would owe under the policy or contract.
- (2) Except as provided in (3), (4) and (5) below, the guaranty association will pay a maximum of \$300,000 per individual, per insolvency, no matter how many policies or types of policies issued by the insolvent company.
- (3) The guaranty association will pay a maximum of \$500,000 with respect to a health benefit plan.
- (4) The guaranty association will pay a maximum of \$1,000,000 with respect to the payee of a structured settlement annuity.
- (5) The guaranty association will pay a maximum of \$5,000,000 to any one unallocated annuity contract holder.

**AMENDMENT TO BE ATTACHED TO THE CERTIFICATE FOR GROUP POLICY NO:  
000010270935**

**ISSUED TO: Cherokee County**

**Your Certificate is amended by adding the following provisions.**

**PRIOR INSURANCE CREDIT UPON TRANSFER OF  
DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE CARRIERS**

This provision prevents loss of disability income coverage for you, which could otherwise occur solely because of a transfer of insurance carriers. The Policy will provide the following Prior Insurance Credit, when it replaces a prior plan.

**"Prior Plan"** means a prior carrier's group disability income policy, which the Policy replaced within 1 day of the prior plan's termination date.

**FAILURE TO SATISFY ACTIVE WORK RULE.** Subject to premium payments, the Policy will provide disability income coverage if you:

- (1) were insured by the prior plan on its termination date; and
- (2) were otherwise eligible under the Policy; but were not Actively-At-Work due to Injury or Sickness on its Effective Date.

**AMOUNT OF COVERAGE.** Until you satisfy the Policy's Active Work rule, your disability income coverage will not exceed that provided by the prior plan, had it remained in force. The Company will pay:

- (1) the benefit the prior plan would have paid; minus
- (2) any amount for which the prior carrier is liable.

**DISABILITY DUE TO A PRE-EXISTING CONDITION.** Benefits may be payable for a period of disability due to a Pre-Existing Condition if you:

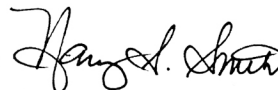
- (1) were insured by the prior plan on its termination date; and
- (2) were Actively-At-Work and became insured under the Policy on its Effective Date.

The benefits will be determined as follows:

- A. The Company will apply the Policy's Pre-Existing Condition Limitation. If you qualify for benefits, you will be paid according to the Policy's benefit schedule.
- B. If you cannot satisfy the Policy's Pre-Existing Condition Limitation; then the prior plan's pre-existing condition limitation will be applied, as follows:
  - (1) If you satisfy the prior plan's pre-existing condition limitation, giving consideration towards continuous time insured under both policies; then benefits will be paid according to the prior plan's benefit schedule.
  - (2) If you cannot satisfy the Pre-Existing Condition Limitation of the Policy, or that of the prior plan; then no benefit will be paid.

**This Amendment takes effect on your effective date of coverage under the Policy. In all other respects, your Certificate remains unchanged.**

**THE LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Officer of the Company

The Lincoln Financial Group companies\* are committed to protecting your privacy. To provide the products and services you expect from a financial services leader, we must collect personal information about you. We do not sell your personal information to third parties. This Notice describes our current privacy practices. While your relationship with us continues, we will update and send our Privacy Practices Notice as required by law. Even after that relationship ends, we will continue to protect your personal information. You do not need to take any action because of this Notice, but you do have certain rights as described below.

We are committed to the responsible use of information and protecting individual privacy rights. As such, we look to leading data protection standards to guide our privacy program. These standards include collecting data through fair and lawful means, such as obtaining your consent when appropriate.

---

### Information we may collect and use

We collect personal information about you to help us identify you as a consumer, our customer, or our former customer; to process your requests and transactions; to offer investment or insurance services to you; to pay your claim; to analyze in order to enhance our products and services; to tell you about our products or services we believe you may want and use; and as otherwise permitted by law. The type of personal information we collect depends on your relationship and on the products or services you request and may include the following:

- **Information from you:** When you submit your application or other forms, you give us information such as your name, address, Social Security number; and your financial, health, and employment history. We may also collect voice recordings or biometric data for use in accordance with applicable law.
- **Information about your transactions:** We maintain information about your transactions with us, such as the products you buy from us; the amount you paid for those products; your account balances; payment details; and your payment and claims history.
- **Information from outside our family of companies:** If you are applying for or purchasing insurance products, we may collect information from consumer reporting agencies, such as your credit history; credit scores; and driving and employment records. With your authorization, we may also collect information (such as medical information, retirement information, and information related to Social Security benefits), from other individuals or businesses.
- **Information from your employer:** If your employer applies for or purchases group products from us, we may obtain information about you from your employer or group representative in order to enroll you in the plan.

---

### How we use your personal information

We may share your personal information within our companies and with certain service providers. They use this information to process transactions you, your employer, or your group representative have requested; to provide customer service; to analyze in order to evaluate or enhance our products and services; to gain customer insight; to provide education and training to our workforce and customers; and to inform you of products or services we offer that you may find useful. Our service providers may or may not be affiliated with us. They include financial service providers (for example, third party administrators; broker-dealers; insurance agents and brokers, registered representatives; reinsurers and other financial services companies with whom we have joint marketing agreements). Our service providers also include non-financial companies and individuals (for example, consultants; vendors; and companies that perform marketing services on our behalf). Information we obtain from a report prepared by a service provider may be kept by the service provider and shared with other persons; however, we require our service providers to protect your personal information and to use or disclose it only for the work they are performing for us, or as permitted by law. We may execute agreements with our service providers that permit the service provider to process your personal information outside of the United States, when not prohibited by our contracts and permitted by applicable law.

When you apply for one of our products, we may share information about your application with credit bureaus. We also may provide information to group policy owners or their designees (for example, to your employer for employer-sponsored plans and their authorized service providers), regulatory authorities and law enforcement officials, and to other non-affiliated or affiliated parties as permitted by law. In the event of a sale of all or part of our businesses, we may share customer information as part of the sale. **We do not sell or release your information to outside marketers who may want to offer you their own products and services; nor do we release information we receive about you from a consumer reporting agency. You do not need to take any action for this benefit.**

---

## Security of information

We have an important responsibility to keep your information safe. We use safeguards to protect your information from unauthorized disclosure. Our employees are authorized to access your information only when they need it to perform their job responsibilities. Employees who have access to your personal information are required to keep it confidential. Employees are required to complete privacy training annually.

---

## Your rights regarding your personal information

This Privacy Notice describes how you can exercise your rights regarding your personal information. Lincoln complies with all applicable laws and regulations regarding the provision of personal information. The rights provided to you in this Privacy Notice will be administered in accordance with your state's specific laws and regulations.

**Access to personal information:** You must submit a written request to receive a copy of your personal information. You may see your personal information in person, or you may ask us to send you a copy of your personal information by mail or electronically, whichever you prefer. We will need to verify your identity before we process the request. Within 30 business days of receiving your request, we will, depending on the specific request you make, (1) inform you of the nature and substance of the recorded personal information we have about you; (2) permit you to obtain a copy of your personal information; and (3) provide the identity (if recorded) of persons to whom we disclosed your personal information within two years prior to the request (if this information is not recorded, we will provide you with the names of those insurance institutions, agents, insurance support organizations or other persons to whom such information is normally disclosed). If you request a copy of your information by mail, we may charge you a fee for copying and mailing costs.

**Changes to personal information:** If you believe that your personal information is inaccurate or incomplete, you may ask us to correct, amend, or delete the information. Your request must be in writing and must include the reason you are requesting the change. We will respond within 30 business days from the date we receive your request.

If we make changes to your records as a result of your request, we will notify you in writing and we will send the updated information, at your request, to any person who may have received your personal information within the past two years. We will also send the updated information to any insurance support organization that gave us the information and any insurance support organization that systematically received personal information from us within the prior 7 years unless that support organization no longer maintains your personal information.

If we deny your request to correct, amend or delete your information, we will provide you with the reasons for the denial. You may write to us and concisely describe what you believe our records should say and why you disagree with our denial of your request to correct, amend, or delete that information. We will file this communication from you with the disputed information, identify the disputed information if it is disclosed, and provide notice of the disagreement to the persons and in the manner described in the paragraph above.

**Basis for adverse underwriting decision:** You may ask in writing for the specific reasons for an adverse underwriting decision. An adverse underwriting decision is where we decline your application for insurance, offer to insure you at a higher than standard rate, or terminate your coverage.

Your state may provide for additional privacy protections under applicable laws. We will protect your information in accordance with these additional protections.

If you would like to act upon your rights regarding your personal information, please provide your full name, address and telephone number and either email your inquiry to our Data Subject Access Request Team at [DSAR@lfg.com](mailto:DSAR@lfg.com) or mail to: Lincoln Financial Group, Attn: Corporate Privacy Office, 1301 South Harrison St., Fort Wayne, IN 46802. The [DSAR@lfg.com](mailto:DSAR@lfg.com) email address should only be used for inquiries related to this Privacy Notice. For general account service requests or inquiries, please call 1-877-ASK-LINC.

\*This information applies to the following Lincoln Financial Group companies:

First Penn-Pacific Life Insurance Company  
Lincoln Financial Distributors, Inc.  
Lincoln Financial Group Trust Company  
Lincoln Investment Advisors Corporation

Lincoln Life & Annuity Company of New York  
Lincoln Life Assurance Company of Boston  
Lincoln Retirement Services Company, LLC  
Lincoln Variable Insurance Products Trust  
The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company

\*\*This Notice is effective 14 calendar days after it is made available on Lincoln's website, [www.LFG.com/privacy](http://www.LFG.com/privacy).